

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-07 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06

SIL-01 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DODE-00 NIC-01 H-03 DRC-01

/164 W

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R 071812Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1092

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UK, PINT, EC

SUBJECT: ANTI-MARKETEERS BEGIN TO STIR

1. SUMMARY: AN OLD WOUND HAS BEEN OPENED IN THE LABOR PARTY. THE DEEP AND BITTERLY FOUGHT DIFFERENCES IN ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE COMMON MARKET -- SO LABORIOUSLY PAPERED OVER AT THE ANNUAL PARTY CONFERENCE IN OCTOBER 1972 -- HAVE NOW SURFACED AGAIN. GROWING DISQUIET AMONG ANTI-MARKETEERS THAT THE LABOR GOVERNMENT MAY BE "GOING SOFT" ON RENEGOTIATION HAS GENERATED PUBLIC CRITICISM
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OF CALLAGHAN7S PERFORMANCE IN LUXEMBOURG JUNE 4 AND

RENEWED PRESSURE ON THE GOVERNMENT TO KEEP ITS PLEDGE
TO REFER THE ISSUE TO THE ELECTORATE. END SUMMARY

2. IN THE WAKE OF CALLAGHAN'S RENEGOTIATION STATEMENT
TO THE EC ON JUNE 4, BRITAIN'S ANTI-MARKETEERS HAVE
FINALLY BEGUN TO STIR. THE GET BRITAIN OUT MOVEMENT
HAS ANNOUNCED A SERIES OF FIVE MEETINGS IN MAJOR URBAN
CENTERS AIMED AT ROUSING PUBLIC OPINION AGAINST EC
MEMBERSHIP. THE FIRST RALLY, TO BE HELD IN YORKSHIRE
ON JUNE 19, WILL BE ADDRESSED BY LORD WIGG, A FORMER
LABOR MINISTER, JACK JONES, GENERAL SECRETARY OF
BRITAIN'S LARGEST TRADE UNION, AND ENOCH POWELL, THE
LEADING ANTI-MARKETEER IN THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY. MORE
UNLIKELY BEDFELLOWS WOULD BE HARD TO IMAGINE, BUT LORD
WIGG ASSERTED HE WOULD "APPEAR ON THE PLATFORM WITH
THE DEVIL HIMSELF IF IT HELPED."

3. MEANWHILE VOICES IN THE LABOR PARTY HAVE BEEN RAISED
IN CRITICISM OF CALLAGHAN'S NEGOTIATING STANCE IN
LUXEMBOURG. NORMAN ATKINSON, THE LEFT-WING TRIBUNE

POSITION OF PARTY TREASURER, ACCUSED CALLAGHAN OF NOT
FOLLOWING PARTY POLICY IN PRESENTING HIS TERMS. HE
COMPLAINED THAT CALLAGHAN HAD OMITTED TWO FUNDAMENTAL
DEMANDS ENDORSED BY THE LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE IN 1973,
I.E., BRITAIN'S RIGHT TO ECONOMIC SELF-MANAGEMENT,
INCLUDING CONTROL OVER CAPITAL MOVEMENTS, AND THE RIGHT
OF PARLIAMENT TO REJECT EC DECISIONS. DOUGLAS JAY,
ANOTHER VETERAN ANTI-MARKETEER, SPEAKING IN COPENHAGEN
JUNE 5, DECLARED THAT ONLY A "FUNDAMENTAL REVISION OF
THE TERMS" WOULD SATISFY THE BRITISH ELECTORATE.

4. JACK JONES SAID YESTERDAY THAT HIS UNION WOULD SEEK
TO GET THE TUC, AT ITS ANNUAL CONGRESS IN SEPTEMBER, TO
REAFFIRM TOTAL OPPOSITION TO BRITISH MEMBERSHIP, AND
WARNED THE GOVERNMENT AGAINST TRYING TO DELAY A REFEREN-
DUM ON THE ISSUE. SIMILARLY, LORD WIGG SAID HE WOULD
CAMPAIGN TO DEFEAT THE LABOR GOVERNMENT IF IT BROKE ITS
PLEDGE TO PUT THE ISSUE TO THE ELECTORATE -- A DETERMI-
NATION REPORTEDLY SHARED BY MANY LABOR ACTIVISTS.
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5. PRIME MINISTER WILSON SOUGHT TO QUIET THESE ANXIETIES BY ASSERTING IN A RADIO INTERVIEW LAST EVENING THAT CALLAGHAN'S JUNE 4 SPEECH REPRESENTED NO WEAKENING OF THE PARTY'S POLICY ON RENEGOTIATION, BUT HIS TASK WAS NOT MADE ANY EASIER BY THE PLAUDITS CALLAGHAN RECEIVED FROM TED HEATH AND GEOFFREY RIPPON FOR HIS "NEW AND MORE CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE."

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6. COMMENT: THE WHITEHALL BUREAUCRACY, WHICH IS OVERWHELMING PRO-EC IN ITS SYMPATHIES, HAS GROWN INCREASINGLY CONFIDENT IN RECENT WEEKS THAT THE LABOR GOVERNMENT, AS IT BECOMES EDUCATED TO THE "REALITIES" OF MEMBERSHIP, WILL ADJUST ITS NEGOTIATING TACTICS TO MAXIMIZE CHANCES OF BRITAIN'S REMAINING IN. NOT SURPRISINGLY THIS HAS GENERATED A CORRESPONDING DISQUIET AMONG ANTI-MARKETEERS WHO FEAR THAT THE GOVERNMENT MAY BE GOING SOFT ON ITS COMMITMENT TO RENEGOTIATE. THIS DISQUIET IS LIKELY TO SURFACE IN THE COMMONS ON JUNE 11, WHEN THE WHOLE ISSUE IS TO BE DEBATED, AND EVEN MORE DRAMATICALLY AT THE LABOR PARTY'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN OCTOBER -- UNLESS A GENERAL ELECTION CAUSES ITS CANCELLATION.

7. FROM HERE ON OUT THE ANTI-MARKETEERS IN THE LABOR PARTY CAN BE EXPECTED TO TRY TO GENERATE PRESSURE ON THE GOVERNMENT, FIRST TO STIFFEN ITS DEMANDS DURING THE RENEGOTIATION PROCESS, AND THEN TO HOLD A REFERENDUM IN WHICH THEY ARE CONVINCED THE BRITISH PEOPLE WILL VOTE TO COME OUT.

ANNENBERG

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